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The purpose of a recent writer¹ on agriculture has been to supply the student with a guidebook for studying vegetable growing from all angles, practical and technical, managerial and scientific. It is intended primarily for pupils in vocational agricultural classes of high schools and of other county, district, and state schools that are benefiting from federal funds under the Smith-Hughes Act.

The method which the author adopted in writing the book is to study each vegetable as if it were to be produced. For example, in chapter ii, the solanaceous crop composed of tomatoes, eggplants, and peppers is studied under three projects. The problems presented and discussed in the first project on tomato growing are as follows: why grow tomatoes, selecting location, choosing varieties, obtaining seed, constructing the hotbed, constructing the cold frame, making plant boxes, making straw mats, sowing seed, caring for the seedlings, making paper pots, transplanting, hardening the plants, preparing the garden soil, planting in the garden, planting with other vegetables, cultivating, training the plants, combating insects and diseases, and harvesting and marketing. While each of these problems is discussed and methods for the solution of the problems given, specific reference is made in each case to other books or articles on the particular subject. A number of pictures are presented illustrating methods of action or the results desired. Each project in the book is treated in a fashion similar to the tomato project.

The textbook contains twenty-one different projects, the final one being "Making the Home Garden." As a help to the student in preparing a project plan, a seasonal program is presented in the first chapter in which ample space is provided for local adjustments.

The book is an excellent presentation of vegetable gardening. The author has not only suggested numerous projects, but also supplied sufficient information to use in making and executing plans. For these reasons the teacher or student of agriculture will find the book especially useful.

JAMES VAUGHN

New textbook on physiology.—Although the subject of physiology in the public schools is no longer regarded as simply a discussion of the evil effects of smoking and of drinking alcoholic beverages, nevertheless it still functions far less in educational practice than in educational theory. There is evidently a need for a substantial course in physiology in the later high-school years which will not only serve as a foundation for hygienic habits but also develop a broader concept of organic functions for those who will later pursue advanced academic work. A recent text² by Dr. Burton-Opitz presents the subject-matter of physiology in a manner which is in striking contrast with the treatment of the

¹ RALPH L. WATTS, *Vegetable Growing Projects*. New York: Macmillan Co., 1922. Pp. xxiii+318.

² RUSSELL BURTON-OPITZ, *An Elementary Manual of Physiology*. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co., 1922. Pp. 411. \$2.50.

older elementary books, but which uses a terminology and a direct form of explanation fitted to the maturity of advanced high-school or normal-training students.

The book is written for the general, rather than for the technical or professional, course. It is organized around six main topics, namely, "The Physiology of Muscle and Nerve," "The Circulation of the Blood and Lymph," "Respiration," "Nutrition," "The Nervous System," and "The Sense Organs." The selection of material and the diagrams and illustrations are excellent.

The text will be of service to three classes of students: (1) to advanced high-school or junior-college classes where the need is for a general introductory course; (2) to normal-training classes, particularly in those states where the subject of physiology is required for a teaching certificate; (3) to students of educational psychology who will find the excellent discussion of the nervous system and sense organs a very useful source for reference.

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

GENERAL EDUCATIONAL METHOD, HISTORY, THEORY, AND PRACTICE

- BUTTERWORTH, JULIAN E. *Rural School Survey of New York State: School Buildings and Grounds*. Ithaca, New York: Joint Committee on Rural Schools, 1922. Pp. 131. \$0.75.
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